

FIGURE SKATING COACH PROFILES

Figure Skating private lessons are available at O'Brien Icehouse with our accredited and approved coaches. All figure skating private lessons must be booked through individual Icehouse coaches. Please find their contact details and biographies below.

All Icehouse coaches are APSA (Australian Professional Skaters' Association) accredited and are required to maintain a valid First Aid Certificate and Working with Children Check.

If you have any questions, please contact info@obrienicehouse.com.au



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ADELE MORRISON



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PROFILE

Adele has been skating since the age of 3. She is an experienced coach and was a competitive skater in international level senior ice dance. She has over 20 years' experience in competitive singles, ice dance, and artistic skating and is herself a multiple state representative to Australian Nationals and has represented Australia in international competition. She continues to participate in her own active training with a view to reaching her own goals in the sport.

As a coach, Adele's strengths lie in singles, ice dance, and edgework. She has the ability to break down skating technique so that a beginner and most advanced skater can easily understand the movement to achieve maximum results and potential with minimum fuss. Most importantly, Adele encourages her skaters to reach beyond their potential with intense training where necessary but also much encouragement, planning and organisation for her competitive skaters. Adele's students are among the current National Champions and podium finishers in many local, interstate and international competitions in both singles skating and ice dance. She believes hard work gets results and that nothing is impossible if you really want it.



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AMBER BRIANT



amberbriant@hotmail.com

PROFILE

Amber has been involved with ice skating for most of her life, both through competing herself and coaching. Her personal achievements include representing Australia and Germany at the World Championships several times in Synchronized Skating and Australian Champion in pairs skating.

Amber is trained in classical ballet, tap, and jazz and enjoys creating choreography for her students. Having spent much time travelling the globe training with some of the world's best coaches, Amber looks forward to passing on her knowledge to her students. Amber specialises in teaching Synchronized Skating and is working to develop Synchronized Skating in Victoria to provide teams suitable for all levels and age groups.

Amber is qualified with a degree in Sports and Exercise Science and is a Level 2 accredited skating coach with the Australian Professional Figure Skating Association (APSA).



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BRIAN DUCKWORTH



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PROFILE

Brian is a well-known and internationally respected professional skater, and was one of the stars in Disney on Ice production "Worlds of Fantasy", portraying the role of Simba from Lion King. Whether it be Singles or Adagio, Brian skated solos all over the world for 16 years with Disney, which includes roles such as Simba, Woody, Mr. Incredible, Snow White Prince and Hades, just to mention a few.

He was a principal skater for the largest employer of professional figure skaters in the world for the last 12 years. Before his career with Disney on Ice, Brian had achieved ISU gold medal freestyle (highest ISU level). Whilst he was concentrating on freestyle, he was also intensely training in ice dancing, in which he became a successful competitor, earning two Australian titles as a Junior Dance Champion and Senior Ice Dance Champion.

Whilst juggling singles and dance at the same time, Brian competed for Australia internationally for 5 years along with extensive training in Czech Republic, England and the AIS (Australian Institute of Sport).



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ELEKTRA SCHUBERT



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PROFILE

Elektra is a Level 1 accredited coach with the Australian Professional Figure Skating Association (APSA). She has been coaching since 2019 and has more than 14 years of skating experience.

As a teenager, she competed at a state and national level in the ISA competitive singles divisions, representing Victoria at the Australian Figure Skating Championships in 2012 and 2013. Later, she found a new enjoyment for skating as an adult, returning to competition in the ISA Adult divisions and qualifying for 4 more national championships. She continues to work on developing her own skating skills alongside coaching. Elektra also completed university studies in psychology, including a PhD in 2022. This has given her a strong understanding of the mental side of skating, including motivation, cognitive development, and management of emotions.

Elektra enjoys working with skaters of all ages (kids, teens, and adults) and levels (beginner to competitive ISA Basic Novice). She aims to encourage a balance between fun and hard work in her coaching, with an emphasis on developing confidence and strong fundamentals. She believes in treating skaters as individuals, working flexibly and collaboratively to help them reach their goals, whether they are enjoyment, fitness, or competitive aspirations.



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ELIZA HALL



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PROFILE

Eliza has been skating since O'Brien Icehouse opened in 2010. Over her many years of competitive skating she has won numerous State titles and has represented Victoria in many Australian National Championships. She has also performed as a principle skater in yearly Christmas Shows and Disney On Ice Pre Shows since 2010. Eliza has also spent time in Colorado training under some of the top Figure Skating coaches in the world.

Eliza is very passionate about supporting and encouraging her students to reach their goals and strive for achievements. She is dedicated to providing skaters with a positive environment, strong technique, performance execution and a solid foundation of skills to build upon. She creates a fun, supportive and friendly team environment for skaters as well as promoting good sportsmanship to all skaters and coaches across the sport.

As a coach, Eliza focuses on jumps, spins, edge quality, power, performance work, choreography, off ice jumps, and rotations. All aspects are important skills that when combined, make a strong foundation for any skater. Whether you are interested in competitive skating or recreational skating, Eliza can provide you with the tools and training to suit your individual needs and aspirations.

Eliza is a Level 1 accredited Figure Skating coach and also holds a certificate in Nutrition.



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ELLEN WALSH

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PROFILE

Ellen is a level 1 Accredited Coach with the Australian Professional Figure Skating Association (APSA), who has been training at the O'Brien Icehouse since its opening in 2010, and involved with Skate School here for nearly as long.

Ellen loves coaching skaters of all ages and levels, from tots to adults, and beginners to skaters with competitive ambitions.

Ellen trained as a competitive Figure Skater for many years, feeling lucky to travel to many new places around Australia competing. She understands the hard work required to reach these levels, and instills a good work ethic in her skaters.

In her skaters Ellen encourages positivity, confidence and a love of the sport, while building strong relationships in order to help the skater reach their goals.



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KAROLINA KORFANTY



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PROFILE

Karolina is an Australian accredited figure skating coach who is patient, professional and passionate about inspiring and developing skaters. She has coached the Elite Performance Program, the High Performance Program, presented at many development camps, choreographed local ice shows and managed competitive skaters to podium success on both national and international level.

Holding qualifications as a Strength and Conditioning Specialist, Velocity Sport Performance Specialist and a Bachelor of Applied Science majoring in Sport Coaching from Deakin University, Karolina is recognised as a leading Holistic Sport Performance Coach. Her focus is on helping athletes achieve their sporting goals through safe, efficient, and effective individualised training programs.

Previously based in Los Angeles, Karolina honed her skills in strength and conditioning while training and managing athletes from diverse sporting backgrounds, including ice hockey and volleyball.

Karolina's own journey as a competitive skater, spans local, state, national and international competitions across various divisions. She achieved the highest testing level of Senior in singles, patterns, and ice dance. Also was featured in various TV promotions and programs and performed in many local ice shows.



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LEE CHAPLIN



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PROFILE

If you are a skater that has a desire to work hard to achieve your goal, Lee can create a structured pathway to allow you to be your best.

Lee spent many years as a professional skater in National and International productions and brings a passion for the sport to her coaching.

Having a background in classical and jazz ballet, Lee has developed a unique skill set to provide strong skating foundations to progress in both competitive and recreational skating.

As a regular attendant of international coaching workshops in Ontario Canada, under world class coaches, Lee has remained current with her techniques and teaching.

This love of learning and desire to share her knowledge has enabled Lee to train students to elite levels of competitive skating in Australia.

Lee creates training programs for adults and children, at all levels of skating from beginners to elite, supported by structured off ice technique, dance, choreography, strength and conditioning. All of these components come together to provide a complete package to support your pathway in Figure Skating to share the vision to be your best.



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MEL CARRINGTON



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PROFILE

Melanie, originally from the Netherlands, has been skating since the age of 4. Being taught by her dad Paul Carrington, a professional figure skater himself, she achieved 2 National Championship titles and represented her country internationally. Melanie went on to have a very successful 15-year professional career in which she skated for the 3 main and biggest ice show productions in the world; Holiday on Ice, Disney on Ice and Willy Bietak Productions on the Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines. Even though Melanie was a successful single skater in her competitive years, in her professional career she branched out and acquired a new skill.

Teaming up with Melbourne born husband Brian Duckworth, they became successful pair skaters showcased in main roles for Disney on Ice and Willy Bietak Productions. In Disney on Ice, they portrayed characters like 'Ariel and Prince Eric' from the Little Mermaid and 'Simba and Nala' from the Lion King, just to name a few. Melanie has also been a performance director for one of the Disney on Ice show productions. Melanie skated in well-known TV program 'Dancing on Ice' in Netherlands, in which she partnered up with Dutch celebrity John Williams.

After travelling the world Melanie is happy to call Melbourne her home and share her knowledge with the up and coming Australian talent.



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MICHELLE COETZEE



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PROFILE

Michelle is a Level 2 Australian Professional Figure Skating Association (APSA) certified coach whose focus is in helping skaters to achieve excellent basic skating skills. She has been skating since the age of 9 and has represented Australia as the Team Captain at five World Synchronised Championships. She has also skated for France at International Synchronised events and on televised Christmas specials. Michelle has been coaching ice skating since the age of 14 and has taught both in Australia and France.

Her main area of expertise lies with Synchronised or Team skating which requires skaters to have a high level of skill in turns and stroking. Michelle enjoys coaching Adult skaters as well as Skate School students looking to start private coaching, as she believes it is important to focus on excellent basic technique from the start.



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OWEN MATTHEWS



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PROFILE

Owen is dedicated to sharing his passion for skating with students of all ages and aspirations, whether they skate for recreation or competition. With a knack for guiding beginners on their skating journey, Owen prioritizes strong fundamental techniques to instill confidence and lay the groundwork for future growth. He adapts his teaching methods to suit the unique needs of each student, accommodating varying ages and skill levels with sensitivity and expertise.

Owen's coaching expertise and experience extends across local, interstate, and international competitive athletes, focusing particularly on jump and harness training, alongside other essential skating skills. Throughout his competitive career, Owen had the privilege of being coached by Olympians Mandy Woetzel and Cameron Medhurst, a mentorship that shaped his approach to coaching. His achievements include titles such as Australian Intermediate Men's Champion in 2016 and multiple selections to the Ice Skating Australia National Squad and Victorian State Squad.

Currently pursuing Level 2 accreditation with the Australian Professional Coaches Association, Owen specializes in coaching singles skating, jump and harness techniques, and ice dance.



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ROBYN BURLEY

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PROFILE

Robyn is Australia's only World Professional Champion. Robyn was honoured to be inducted into Australia's Ice Skating Hall of Fame and to be Victorian Sportswoman of the Year and Australian runner-up on the list of 100 greatest ever Melbourne Sports Stars and Ambassador of the City of Melbourne.

Three time Australian Champion, World Representative and multiple international competitor, Robyn has worked and performed with Torvill and Dean, the Chinese Olympic Team, Canada's Stars on Ice and Channel 9.

Robyn is a level 3 Accredited Coach and Ice Skating Union of World Technical Specialist Judge. She has coached National Champions and World representatives. Academically, Robyn has a Psychology (Sports Psychology) and Education Graduate Diploma (Senior School Teacher) and a Master's of Arts.

Robyn specialises in strength of technique, muscle memory, creative and emotive skating and aiming to be your best. She believes in persistence, patience and passion and wishes to bring the joy she experienced throughout her life of skating to her students.



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